March 23, 1976

to be the maximum that they are capable of using in this category. Another thing is that they do have a balance, so obviously they haven't even used this much. There is some question on some of the projects that they have... that they have undertaken, but I'm not going to go into those right now. I think that generally speaking, if I might make this statement Senator Schmit, and I'm not picking on the state colleges now. Institutions of government in this state do a very poor job of maintaining. The first one that is tapped is the maintenance fund. It is easier to let the roof leak and give salary increases than it is to try and face up to some of these problems. But, in direct answer to your question. I think that this is the experience. What else do we go by?

SENATOR SCHMIT: How can they use maintenance money for salaries? I thought that we protected ourselves against that sometime ago. Have they been doing that?

SENATOR MARVEL: I have no evidence of it in the last year. But, I do have evidence of fact that we still are in a constant turmoil as far as maintenance is concerned. We still have the new...to give you one example, and we already reported on this. The Game and Parks Commission with that new building, the new headquarters, that roof already leaks. They are asking for authorization for at least \$38,000, which some people tell me is an exorbitant amount to try and fix the roof. That is only one incidence. Chadron has still got building problems. They have...I don't know if it is the type of ground that they have, the architects that they hire, the contractors that they hire, or what, but these are evidence...and you know the problem down at the Peru State College. Almost a new dormitory complex has been leaking almost from the start. Now there is something wrong with the way we administer maintenance in this state when you have evidence of this all over.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, go ahead.

SENATOR MARVEL: Only one other point, a few years ago the head of one of the institutions of higher education when confronted with the terrible maintenance job that they had done said, well we have been doing it like this for 25 years. Stealing money from maintenance and paying salaries.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would just like to comment. I can't understand how the new building out at the Game and Parks Commission can be leaking, but if it does need \$38,000 worth of repairs, then those repairs should certainly be made. You can't allow that structure to leak.

SENATOR MARVEL: Well we have put the money in.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well now is there any way of find out if they are going to spend it for that? Will you follow up on that Senator Marvel?